against transfer of mining lease in respect of Kumaraswamy Iron Ore deposit in District Bellary held by NMDC in favour of new Steel Plants to be established in the State. NMDC plans to work Kumaraswamy Iron Ore deposit fully as replacement of Donimalai Iron Ore projtct on exhaustion of Donimalai deposits.

Licence to Multinational Companies lor Mining

1671. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA.

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some multinational com panies have been given lease and licences to operate different mines in the country during the past two years;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof country-wise and mine-wise;

(c) whether these foreign firm have asked to revise the royalty rates, and is so, the details thereof;

(d) whether as a result thereof the country's Public Sector companies operating such mines at present haye been endangered;

(e) whether any protect·ou has been assured before the entry of multinational companies is allowed; and

(f) if so, the deiaiis thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINIS (SHRI BALRAM SlNGH YADAV): (a) Prospecting Licences and Mining Leases are given by the concerned State Governments as per provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957. In case of companies, the Ac' envisaged that a mining lease/prospecting lincence can be given only to .i company in which majority of the Directors were Indian citizens and *no'* less than sixty per cent of the share capital was held by pesrons who are either citizens of India or companie* as '.lefmed in the companies Act, 1956. This Act was amended on 25-1-1994 and it now permits grant of a prospecting licence or a thing lease only to a company as denned in sub-section (1) of section 3 of the Companies Act, 1956.

tb), (d), (e) and (f) Does not arise.

(c) Suggestions for revision and rationalisation of royalty rates are received from time to time from various sources. A view on such suggestions is taken as and when these rates are revised in accordance with provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957.

Mineral Exploitation in the country

1672. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

fa) whether Australian Indian Resources (AIR), a company set up by a consortium of mining firms in Western Australia to act as a vehicle for mineral exploitation in India, has applied for prospecting licences for 50,000 square kilometers in India;

(b) if so, the areas identified for prospecting in the various States concerned and the various minerals and metals like gold, copper, nickel, zinc and platinum to be explored and exploited; and

(c) Government's reaction to the grant of mining rights in India sought for by the Australian firm?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): fa) to (c) The information is being collected from *the* various State Governments/UTs and will be pleased on the Table of the House.

Parliamentary Privileges

1673. SHRI K. R. MALKANI: WiH the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government would consider codifying Parliamentary Privilege*; amd

(b) If so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACUA RAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b) Government have no plans to codify Ihe Privileges of Members of Parliament.

Special Session of Parliament

1674. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:

Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state: \

(a) what was the main purpose and object °f convening the special sessions of both Houses of Parliament from 15th to 19th June, 1994; and

(b) to what extent the purpose of convening the special session, of Parliament was achieved?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) (a) and (b) Th© Rajya Sabha which commenced its 170th Session on 21st February, 1994 wai adjourned on the 13th May, 1994 to meet again on the 13th June, 1994 and it was[1] adjourned sine-die on the 15th lime. 1994. The Lok Sabha which commenced ff, ninth Session on the 21st February. 1994. was prorogued by the President on 23rd May, 1994, to enable the President to promulgate certain Ordinances by the 31st May, 1994, at the lates. to bring the Municipal Acts of Manipur. Chandigarh and New Delhi Municipal Committee in conformity wrth the provisions of the Constitution (Seventy-Fourth Amendment) Act. 1992. The Lot Sabha was summoned to meet for it$_s$ tenth Session on the 13th June, 1994. On receipt of a tentative programme of Government Business for the session from the M'nistry of Parliamentary Affairs, the Lok Sabha Secretariat circulated the same to the Members of the Lok Sabha. The programme, inter-alia included introduction, consideration and passing of the three Bills replacing the three Ordinances promulgated by the President. The Lok Sabha adjourned sine-die on the 14th I unc. 1994 after transacting the essential items of Goverment business.

Formation of a Joint Venture company

1675. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased in slate:

(a) whether the KIOCL, MECON and NMDC, the three public sector undertakings, have formed a joint venture company to provide services to clients in the minjng and mineral based industries: and

'(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SON-TOSH MOHAN DEV): i$_a$) and (b) Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited (KIOCL), National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) $_a$nd Metallurgies! & Engineering Consultants India Limited (MECON) have cocluded a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on 27-6-94 to consider forming a joint venture company for achieving the following broad objective*:—

(a) Exploration and exploitation of ores and mined resources and setting up downstream facilities as a measure of diversification.

(b) Modernisation, refurbishing »nd rehabilitation of mining and mineral based industries both in India and abroad.

(c) Exploration of the possibilities of joini ventures with foreign companies for opera tion abroad.

टील अथारिटी आफ इंडिया लिमिटेड द्वारा अर्जित लाभ

1676. श्री चिमनभाई हरिभाई शुक्ल: क्या इस्पात मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) 1991-92; 1992-93 और 1993-94 (प्रस्तावित) के दौरान स्टील